

# THE COUNTRY COURIER.

VOL. II.

NEW-YORK, MONDAY, JANUARY 6, 1817.

No. 10.

THE COUNTRY COURIER.  
PRINTED BY ABRAHAM VOSBURGH,  
and edited by  
BARENT GARDENIER,  
NEW-YORK.

This paper is published twice a week, MONDAYS and THURSDAYS, on a large super royal sheet, in an octavo form, so that if the numbers are preserved, they will make two volumes in each year, each volume containing about eight hundred pages; making sixteen hundred pages a year, free of Advertisements, for the small sum of FIVE DOLLARS A YEAR.

The profit which can be made from such a paper is very small; and it is therefore, necessary that a rigid system of *punctuality* should be established and adhered to. This can only be done by insisting on payment in advance. That system will be hereafter scrupulously adhered to, without respect of persons.

It will follow, we trust, not less conclusively, that we ought not to be subjected to postage.

Upon these terms we are willing to publish the Country Courier, and whether we have to print it for fifty subscribers or a thousand, upon no other terms shall, or can we publish it.

To publishers of Newspapers in the United States and elsewhere.

It is requested that such of you as publish daily papers, will give the above an insertion, and the favor will be returned whenever requested. To others we have in particular to propose, that they give the above as many insertions as will make up the difference between the price of their papers and this.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 2.

Extract of a letter to a gentleman in Philadelphia, dated

"PORT AU PRINCE, Dec. 12, 1816.

"Coffee continues to rise, and will not be got soon, we fear under 30 sous—it sold to-day at 29, which is something upwards of \$20 per hundred. At this price it will cost the importer here with duties and expenses of importation, near 30 cents per lb.

"Coffee and sugar in the West Indies generally, is scarce and unusually high."

Translated from the Spanish for the New-York Evening Post.

Manifesto of General Arismendi, commander in chief, to the people of Venezuela.

Nothing is more worthy of your attention, than the facts now about to be communicated to you: They are equally disgraceful to the guilty as honorable to the innocent.

As a result of the unfortunate action of Ocumare, a set of wicked and obstinate men undertook to deprive the commander in chief of the republic, (Bolívar,) of the well merited reputation, which his virtues, patriotism

and valor had secured to him; attributing the misfortunes of that day to him exclusively; pretending, that a great loss had been sustained through his cowardice and ignorance.—What an imposition!

But listen to the despositions which have just been made before me, by Lieut. Colonel and Major General Bernard Smith, of the same army; and of Captain Penot, whose vessel was at anchor in the port of Ocumare on the day of its evacuation.

The division attacked on the heights of Ocumare, was commanded by colonel Souhlette, to whose assistance the commander in chief marched in person. The action being lost, he retreated to the town, and took such measures as were in his power to save the rest of the troops; stationed the same guard as before on the beach, to prevent the embarkation of the military; ordered the commander of marine to ship on board the Indio-libre, every thing there was on shore; directed General M'Gregor with 60 men, to take the route to Choroni, in order to rally the inhabitants of the town, and those who survived the action; and after embodying them to join the division of Pinango, then at that station. At this juncture, Aid-de-camp Alzuru rushed in, and informed him that the enemy had just crossed the river. Believing, this news, and fearing, from so few of the soldiers who had been in the action of the day having arrived, that they had been cut off, orders were given to General M'Gregor to proceed by land with such forces as had been collected, to Choroni.

The commander in chief took a boat and went on board the brig (then under sail) by which the schooners, belonging to Duclair and Pinot, the commander of marines, had been ordered to ship the stores and ammunition.

Being informed that they were on board the schooners, he ordered them to follow him to Choroni. After sailing all night, the brig getting along but slowly, at day-light fell in with the schooner belonging to Rosales, who informed him that the enemy's squadron had dispersed ours.

Upon this, Duclair steered for Bonayre, which gen. Bolívar observing, bore down upon Penot, to enquire the reason, and being informed of the designs of Duclair, as well as of this same Penot ordered him again to follow after him, but was refused, on pretence of being a merchant vessel. He then ordered him to bring on board 580 muskets, and the stores that was on board, which was also declined, upon pretence that they ought to be delivered to Admiral Brion.

Thus baffled, and being without provisions,



muskets or ammunition, he resolved to go himself to Bonayre and get them from the admiral. On his arrival there, Brion furnished him with the necessary articles, and gave him the *Diana*, to return to Choroní; but when this took place, which was on the 18th, at night, the army, after waiting, on the 17th and 18th, till 3 o'clock in the afternoon, had marched towards the Vallies of Aragua. He proceeded after it, as far as the post of Chiboco, when he met with a small party, with whom it was neither possible nor prudent to cross all the vallies, through which the army had, without doubt, proceeded. He, therefore, returned to Bonayre, and after a conference with the admiral re-embarked in the brig *Indio libre*, with arms and ammunition, for the eastward; and having reached the port of Guyria, a faction headed by the turbulent Bermudes, entered into a conspiracy to assassinate him.

All the authority and energy of Gen. Marino, who commanded at that post, could not disconcert the measures of the faction. The commander in chief finding what kind of reception was preparing for him by his cunning adversaries then at anchor in that port, to save himself went afterwards on board the same brig, which happened at the time to be in the port of Guinimita, intending to return to this island. We are grieved in saying that he has not yet reached us; nor have we since learned any further information of his fate.

Citizen Smith, who crossed with the army from Ocumare to Barcelona, and was personally engaged in six field actions, which had all been successful, informs us that the inhabitants of all the provinces through which the army proceeded, expressed such enthusiasm and confidence in the commander in chief that old and young for 40 and 50 leagues around the country were flocking to it—but in consequence of his absence were so discouraged that few would join, grieved at the precaution which the present commanders had taken to inform them that the commander in chief was at the head of the army, towards the left. Such is the truth as faithfully and impartially verified by successive documents.

Some accident of which we are ignorant has prevented his return to this Island. We have enquired for him in every direction, and are full of hopes that he will soon return among us with new resources.

Head Quarters, Margarita, Sept. 23, 1816.

JUAN BAUTISTA ARISMENDI.

Copied from the original.

ESTEVAN HERRERA,  
Secretary of War.

By a letter from Gen. Bolivar to a gentleman in Philadelphia, dated Port-au-Prince, Nov. 11, it appears he was organizing a new

expedition at that place of greater force, both in vessels and men, than any he had yet commanded, and expected to sail in six days to join his fellow citizens in Venezuela.—*E. Post.*

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 28.

We are informed that the interest on the public debt becoming due at Boston on the first of next month, will be paid there in notes of the Bank of the United States, being considered equivalent to specie.

GEORGETOWN, (Col.) Dec. 28.

It is positively ascertained that the National Bank will be ready to commence its operations on the 1st of January. Indeed, we understand that a notification to that effect has been made to the government.

#### BRITISH CONSULATE.

BALTIMORE, December 26, 1816.

Gentlemen—I have much pleasure in stating to you for the benefit of all persons concerned in British shipping, the following rule, which, on application to, has been established by the secretary of the treasury of the U. States as to what destroys the continuity of a voyage in relation to the West-Indies:

If a British vessel sails from a British port and enters and clears from a British port in the West-Indies or in America and from thence to a port in the United States, the continuity of the voyage will be considered broken, and the vessel subject to foreign tonnage; while on the other hand, if a British vessel sails from a British West-India port, and enters into a foreign port or a British European port, and clears thence for a port in the U. States, the continuity of the voyage being broken, foreign tonnage will not be exacted.

Whatever tonnage duty therefore has been levied in violation of this rule will be repaid.

WM. DAWSON.

FROM THE HAMPSHIRE (MASS.) GAZETTE.

#### *Is he fit for Service?*

Mr. GRAY has peremptorily declined being the Democratic Candidate for Governor in opposition to Governor BROOKS—and Gen. DEARBORN, who has so long been on furlough, has taken the field. His present Campaign will be equally glorious and more comfortable than his Canadian, for in any event he will have good quarters—can *bivouac* every night at his own fireside, and will never have any *forced march*, except like the Vicar of Wakefield, from the blue bed the Brown.

The following extracts from official Documents will enable the public to form a correct estimate of the military services of Gen. D. in the late War. He purchased a brilliant and splendid Coat—went to Sackett's har-



ber—and thence on board the fleet to York. But he was not blown up with PIKE—for he was still on board his ship—after Gen. Pike was disabled, the command devolved on Col. Pearce, the senior officer on shore, and he took possession of the town; after which Gen. Dearborn “went on shore” and took possession of the celebrated *Scalp and MACE*. In his official letter he says: Every movement was *under my view*.” Thus he adopts the language of the poet, “All of which I saw, and—there he stops.

*Extract of a letter from Major General Dearborn to the Secretary of War, dated*

“Newark, U. Canada, June 4, 1813.

“Chandler and Winder are in pursuit of the enemy, who has halted about 45 miles from here. I am still very feeble, and gain strength but slowly.”

*From the same to the same.*

“H. Quarters, Ft. George, June 6, 1813.

“Sir, I have received an express from the head of the lake this evening, with the intelligence that our troops were attacked at 9 o'clock this morning, by the whole British force and Indians, and by some strange fatality, though our loss in numbers was small, and the enemy was completely routed and driven from the field, both brigadier generals, Chandler and Winder were taken prisoners.” “I never so severely felt the want of health as at present.” &c.

*From the same to the same.*

H. Quarters, Ft. George, June 8, 1813.

“My ill state of health renders it extremely painful to attend to the current duties; and unless my health improves soon, I fear I shall be compelled to retire to some place, where my mind may be more at ease for a short time.”

*Extract of a letter from Major General Morgan Lewis, to the Secretary of War, dated*

Niagara, June 14, 1813.

“You will perceive by the enclosed copy of orders, marked 1, that General Dearborn from indisposition has resigned the command, not only of the Niagara, but of the District. I have doubts whether he will ever again be FIT FOR SERVICE. He has been repeatedly in a state of convalescence; BUT RELAPSES ON THE LEAST AGITATION OF MIND.”

*Orders, referred to by General Lewis.*

Adjutant General Office, H. Quarters, }  
Ft. George, June 18, 1813. }

“By reason of the temporary indisposition of Maj. General Dearborn, the command of the troops on the Frontier and of the 9th Military Department of the U. States, devolves on Major General Lewis. All persons concerned are notified accordingly.

By command, W. SCOTT, Adj. Gen.

*Extract of a letter from the Secretary at War, to Major Gen. Dearborn, dated*

“War Department, June 19, 1813.

“Your letters of the 6th and 8th inst. have been received. There is, indeed, some fatality attending our efforts. I cannot disguise from you the surprise occasioned by the two escapes of a beaten enemy, first on the 27th ult. and again on the 1st inst. Battles are not gained when an inferior and broken enemy is not destroyed. Nothing is ever done, while any thing that might have been done is omitted. This maxim is as old as the profession of arms, and in no walk of

life applies with as much force as in that of a soldier.”

Here behold the didactic, ironical, and reproachful style in which Armstrong treated Dearborn—to all this he submitted meekly; for Doct. Dearborn knew full well it was sometimes necessary to swallow nauseous *Doctor's Trade* without squalling or kicking—so down it went.

*Extract from Major General Dearborn to the Secretary at War.*

H. Quarters, Ft. George, June 20, 1813.

“Sir, I have been so reduced in strength as to be incapable of any command.”

*Another from same to same.*

“H. Quarters, Ft. George, June 25, 1813.

“Sir, I have the mortification of informing you of an unfortunate and unaccountable event—which occurred yesterday.” [the surrender of Col. Berstler with 500 men.]

The government, being much puzzled by these “unaccountable events and “strange fatalities,” at length lost all patience with Gen. D. and the result was the following order:—

War Department, July 6, 1813.

“Sir, I have the President's orders to express his decision, that you retire from the command of District No. 9, and of the troops within the same, until your health shall be re-established, and until further orders.

I have the honour to be, sir, with very great respect, your most obedient and very humble servant,

JOHN ARMSTRONG.

Maj. Gen. Henry Dearborn.”

It was soon after announced in the Boston papers that “Henry Dearborn, Esq.” had arrived at his seat in Roxbury. Notwithstanding his weakly state of health, he performed his journey on horseback; and at a public dinner, given to greet the Hero, he consumed plumb pudding and such other dishes, as require good digestion. He was, moreover, soon after married. These facts we mention, because they are symptoms of his case, not because we deem it profane to marry or eat.

His arrival was celebrated by our poets—the following verses are extracted from an “Ode for General D's Civic Feast.

He comes! but not from bloody frays;  
Th' illustrious warrior blood disdains:  
He boasts no conquering chieftain's pride,  
No laurel pluck'd from crimson'd plains.

He comes to scenes of private life,  
Of feats of glorious courage tired,  
And, sicken'd, leaves War's cares and strife,  
Because—his sovereign so required.

Dare any Tory rebel ask,

What he achieved? what posts he's taken?  
To tell were simple, easy task—  
He sav'd his Coat, his pride—his bacon.

Welcome! great northern Hero! home,  
Thou com'st unstained, unsoil'd, unkill'd!  
Nor widow's wail, nor orphan's moan,  
Laments for blood that thou hast spill'd.

The officers of the army, it would seem, did not mean the secession of the general, as



it appears from the following, published soon after in the *National Intelligencer*.

*Extract of a letter from an Officer at Ft. George.*

"I languish for the sight of a man, who, understanding his business, will do justice to the army and the country. Under such a man there is both honour and renown—under any other, confusion, disaster, and disgrace. We hope for better times."

#### *Continuation of Foreign News.*

LONDON, November 6.

*Naples and America.*—We know the Americans failed so completely in their demands on the Court of Naples, that instead of obtaining several millions sterling, as the value of a great number of ships and cargoes seized by Murat, nothing was given up to them but two or three small vessels, which, as being of little or no value, remained unsold. To restore these was no more than what common courtesy, or, one might say, common honesty demanded; since they were known to be the identical property of the Americans, and had never undergone any transfer whatever.—The way in which a French journal speaks of this transaction, is as follows:—"The Americans have obtained of the Court of Naples the restitution of the vessels which had been taken from them. They still claim a further indemnity, but their tone is less menacing. The establishment which they desire to have ceded to them in the Mediterranean would be useful to their commerce, and dangerous to no power. We do not yet know whether or not they will obtain it."—Now, the journalist knows very well that they have not the slightest chance of obtaining it: he knows that the European powers in general would not permit the introduction of the Americans into the Mediterranean; and he also knows that, instead of obtaining restitution of the vessels that had been taken from them, they will never obtain one farthing for those which Murat sold, and which comprised nineteen twentieths of those which he seized. One consolation the owners of these American vessels may derive from the present French papers: they may learn that the fruit of these robberies has purchased Miss Murat a husband. The young lady, it is said is about to be married to a Hungarian Nobleman, and her mamma is to give her a fortune of three millions of ducats, part of the proceeds, in all probability, of the very vessels in question. As Mr. Pinckney has failed at Naples, and is now on his way to St. Petersburg, he may call on old Madame Murat in his way, and try the effect of his diplomatic rhetoric on her purse; no doubt there is still a great deal left in it besides Miss's fortune.

LONDON, Nov. 8.

We have received letters from Holland to the 2d inst. It appears, that in consequence of different provinces of that kingdom being

much afflicted by the deplorable situation to which the unfortunate inhabitants of Guelder, and a part of South Holland are reduced, by the incessant rains during the summer; it has been ordered that collections should be made throughout the states, in order to succor those who have suffered by the calamity. Directions have therefore been given, that in every town of these provincial states committees should be formed to afford relief, and on being so established, they have sent addresses to invite the assistance of their fellow citizens. The address of the committee of Amsterdam is in these terms:—

"A dreadful calamity, of which there is no former example, has injured the fertile territories of Guelder, and the rich provinces of South Holland. Continual rains, extraordinary rise of the rivers, and the overflow of the waters in the interior, which has been the consequence have destroyed the natural herbage, and with the fruit of the earth, potatoes, and every article of indispensable necessity. In addition to these sources of distress, an epidemic disease has prevailed among the cultivators. It is not possible under such circumstances to indemnify those who have suffered loss, for the injury is incalculable; but it is compatible to assist thousands of our fellow-creatures in the cruel situation to which they are reduced by the unfavorable season, and to place them in a condition to preserve the cattle that remain to them, the only resource of the country people, either for the present or the future."

(After an energetic exhortation, and an energetic appeal to the sensibility of the public, the address concludes with stating)—"that the measures have been honoured with the approbation of the burgomaster of the city, subscription books would be sent to every house, that persons who are unwilling to subscribe their names openly, may privately indulge their benignity, and contribute to the relief of the unfortunate."

"In the name of the committee,

(Signed) "J. D. MEIJLER, Sec'y.

"Amsterdam, Oct. 23, 1816."

Inledon concludes his engagement at Bath to-morrow. Whilst performing at Bristol, he entered into a treaty with the captain of an American vessel to sail for the United States, but happening "to cast one longing, lingering look behind," the negotiation was instantly broken off by the vocalist, to the tune of "*O the roast beef of old England!*"

PARIS, NOV. 2.

Two rumours are in circulation, and rather discredited here; the first, that an American vessel arrived at St. Helena, with the intention of carrying off Buonaparte, but—that the crew, surprised in the execution of their purpose, were thrown into prison. The second, that some American ships of war pursued, on I know not what pretext, a British



merchant vessel under the forts of Messina, and there had the audacity to fire on her.—It is added, that a broadside from every gun in the battery avenged this insult on the laws of nations.

PARIS, Nov. 6.

Letters from Lyons announce, that the silk manufactures of that city have received large orders from houses at Vienna and Munich. The manufacturers are in full activity.

The price of corn fell one franc at the last Dunkirk market, and it is hoped it will continue to fall.

DEAL, Nov. 12.

We experienced a heavy gale of wind last night, and it was expected the ships in the Downs would suffer, but we only hear of the brig Snake, from Sunderland to Guernsey, with coals, being driven on the main near Walmer; the cargo is landing, and should the weather moderate, the whole will be saved; the vessel bilged and is full of water.

BRUSSELS, Nov. 2.

Every thing leads us to hope a great diminution in the price of corn, and a scarcity of it is no longer apprehended; for we learn that vessels laden with that commodity are on their way to the Netherlands; that several, as we have said, have already arrived, and that others are daily entering our ports. Twelve vessels with corn, that lately arrived at Antwerp, are at this moment in the canal of Brussels.

Letters worthy of credit state, that from the beginning of the year up to the 2d of October, there sailed from the port of Odessa alone, 300 vessels, laden with corn, for different ports in the Mediterranean.

PALERMO, Oct 10.

The American commodore Chauncey left the port of Messina with his squadron in the latter end of September. It is not known whither he steered his course. The result of Mr. Pinckney's negotiations at Naples is also still unknown here. While Commodore Chauncey's squadron lay in Messina, the Americans had almost every day sanguinary quarrels with the English, who were in the same port.

## FRIDAY, JANUARY 3.

*To the Honourable the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States, in Congress assembled.*

I know not to whom I can with more propriety address the following remarks, than to your honourable body, who alone have the power to remedy the evils, (if they should prove such,) that are the subject of the same. They relate to the article in the new tariff which denies the right of debenture on exportation, on goods imported in foreign vessels, from places where American vessels are not allowed to trade. I hope the impolicy of this law will be made very obvious without much difficulty, for although we may not be

allowed to trade to certain places in American vessels, yet it does not follow that we are still to add to the evil by destroying our carrying trade, which this regulation certainly virtually does.—By its operation we can now only import from the British Islands as much as we want for consumption, and as soon as the Spaniards and French enforce their colonial restrictions, (which we may every moment expect,) and by this means exclude American vessels, then there is an end to the exportation of all colonial produce. A valuable export trade has hitherto been carried on, in colonial articles, say coffee, pimento, rum, sugars, &c. and by this means the revenues have benefited by the amount usually retained on exportation, and the American ship owner has received his freight, and the American merchant his profit.—This is it now all done away, not by the act of foreigners, inimical to our commerce, but by ourselves, which is a great hardship in the present languishing state of commerce, when our ships are rotting at the docks for want of the employment, which the repeal of this so impolitic a law would afford them.

We must certainly be aware that by the operation of this law, the trade which we would otherwise carry on in our own vessels, will be thrown into the hands of foreigners, for the very goods that would be exported from the U. States, in American vessels, will be carried direct to Europe, or other foreign markets from the colonies, and in foreign vessels—and certainly, it would be more for our interest that we should possess this advantage than strangers. Another evil which is the result of this system is, that it diminishes the export (and consequently to the farmer the value) of our own produce, since the very vessels which would introduce here, the surplus quantity of goods above what was necessary for consumption, (and which would be exported in our own vessels,) would take away cargoes of American produce. To shew the operation of this injurious law the more strongly, we will just mention the article of Pimento. This article is imported exclusively from Jamaica, and in every calculation which has been made on the subject, about 1-3 only of what has been imported, has been used for consumption, and the other 2-3 has been shipped in American vessels to France, Holland, the Mediterranean, &c.—Now by the operation of this law, we must confine ourselves to the importation of the one third, and by this means lose the exportation of the other 2-3, as well as the profit or commission on the importation of the same, the 10 per cent. of foreign duty retained by the Custom house on exportation, the sale of American produce to the extent of the said 2-3—the employment for our ships rotting at the wharves, &c. For the duty on this article, is so high, say 6 cents per lb. that if not drawn back, there is of course a virtual prohibition to export. The same remark applies equally cogently to sugar, coffee, rum, indeed every imported article.

The wisdom and the policy of this law has appeared also in a very questionable shape, as the very opposite course was pursued by the administrations of Washington and Jefferson, as the former had nearly involved us in a war with Great Britain, by the non-ratification of the 12th article of Jay's treaty, because that article admitted to be imported from the British colonies into the U. States, only a sufficiency of colonial products for our own consumption, by prohibiting the exportation of such articles from the United States.



Now Great Britain wished then to do a thing which she deemed injurious to our commerce, which Washington had the virtue to oppose at the risk of a war, by the infraction of the treaty, but which we now do ourselves without any necessity, and without receiving any benefit for such privation—and the latter had well nigh involved the nation in a war with Great Britain, by resisting the attempts of that power to prevent the exportation of foreign colonial produce, during her war with France, and to confine us to an importation of a sufficiency for consumption only, by acting on the principle that the exportation as a continuity of voyage, and consequently illegal, but which Jefferson successfully resisted by asserting our right to export, as well as to import, and to which Great Britain found it convenient to accede, although she had made captures to a great extent on the opposite principle. Much more might be said on this subject, but it is hoped that enough appears to your honourable body, to induce you to repeal a law evidently so hostile to the best interests of our country.

MERCATOR.

*Melancholy Accident.*—About 10 o'clock, on Wednesday evening, an outcry for help, proceeding from a row-boat near Castle Williams, was heard at the Battery and at White-Hall. The news-boat belonging to the Office of the *Commercial Advertiser* was immediately manned with the hope of rendering assistance to the persons in distress. On approaching within 2 or 3 hundred yards of the Castle, where the tides of the North and East rivers meet, a boat was discovered bottom upwards; but no person was to be found on or near it. From the outcries for assistance, which were heard by many persons, it is believed, that there were in the boat when she upset at least three or four persons; and there can be no doubt that they were all drowned.

A Man's hat, a new yellow cotton pocket handkerchief, and a small oar were found floating near the boat. They are left at the store of Mr. Abraham A. Stover, No. 5 South-street, for the inspection of any person who may have lost either friends or acquaintances.—*Com. Adv.*

*Latest from the American Squadron.*—Mr. Tilgham, of Philadelphia, passenger in the *Chauncey*, from Gibraltar, arrived in town on Wednesday morning, and proceeded for Washington, with despatches for government from Commodore Chauncey, and Mr. Shaler.

He left Gibraltar on the 16th November and informs us that the United States schooner *Spark* arrived there early in November, with the answer of our government to the demands of the Dey of Algiers. The Java frigate sailed from Gibraltar on the 14th for Malaga; the *Washington* 74, Com. Chauncey, the *Constellation*, *Peacock*, *Erie*, and *Hornet*, were to follow on the 17th for the same place, where they would be joined by the

United States, Com. Shaw, then at Mahon. The whole squadron would then proceed to Algiers, with the answer of the American government. Mr. Shaler, American consul for Algiers, was on board the *Washington*.

The Dey has rendered Algiers stronger than it was before the late attack.

Capt. Gordon, late commander of the *Constellation* frigate, died at Messina in September last, after a long illness, universally regretted. Capt. Crane succeeds him in the *Constellation*.

The *Chauncey* has on board 165 seamen and marines, discharged from the *Constellation*; they are under the command of Lieut. Joseph Smith.

At Cadiz, Nov. 11, ship *William*, for N. York, to sail about the 20th; the only American vessel there. Flour at Cadiz, 9 dolls. about 2000 barrels were sold at that place early in November.—*E. Post.*

An attempt was made last Monday evening, by an incendiary, to burn the new church erecting in North Charles-street, in Baltimore.

BALTIMORE, Dec. 30.

*From Hayti.*—A respectable mercantile friend has put into our hands a French copy of the correspondence between Petion and the commissioners sent by Louis 18th to negotiate with him concerning the recolonization of Hayti. The following proclamation may be considered as exhibiting the spirit in which that negotiation was treated by Petion, and his resolute rejection of any attempt to encroach upon the liberty and independence of the people of whom he is the chief.

*Translated for the Patriot.*

#### REPUBLIC OF HAYTI. PROCLAMATION.

Alexander Petion, President of Hayti, to the People and the Army.

The French flag has appeared on our coast, and the king of France has sent commissioners to Hayti.

Under what circumstances did they present themselves? At the moment that we were about consecrating the edifice of our laws!—At the moment that I was called by your choice to defend it! at the height of the enthusiasm of a nation the most jealous of its rights, have they proposed to compromise them! for what advantages? Are there any preferable to those we enjoy? There does not exist a Haytian whose soul is sufficiently lukewarm to consent to retrace his steps in the path our glory has urged us on; our duties are pointed out; nature gave them birth; she has created us equal with other men; we will sustain them against all who dare conceive the criminal desire of subjugating us. They will only find on these shores, ashes mixed in blood, the sword, and an avenging climate.



"On this occasion, as on that which preceded it, you have shewn the same circumspection and the same respect for the rights of men. You have calculated your strength, and in leaving to your magistrates the task of explaining your dearest interests, you have patiently awaited until they explained what they had done for you; your confidence shall never be betrayed.

The authority rests on your will, and it is your will to be free and independent; you shall be so, and we will give the terrible example to the universe of burying ourselves under the ruins of our country, sooner than return to servitude, even in its most modified form.

Whilst Europe entire unites at the call of philanthropy to annihilate even the trace of that most dishonorable traffic; whilst the most polished nations meditate and plan a general emancipation of those who still groan under oppression; we observe with grief, governments, who style themselves the most religious, nourishing principles which justice and humanity condemn.

Haytians, your protection is your arms; reserve them for those that may disturb you, and let your labour enrich a soil whose fruits you only shall collect.

I have had printed my correspondence with the commissioners of the king; it will be placed under your eyes—I have done my duty, and my duty is yours.

Signed at the National Palace of Port-au-Prince, 12th November, 1816, the 13th year of the Independence of Hayti, &c. &c.

PETION.

B. Inginac, Secretary General.

#### CONGRESS.

##### IN SENATE—DECEMBER 30.

Mr. KING, of New-York, appeared and took his seat.

The President of the Senate communicated a memorial from the Legislative Council of Mississippi Territory, praying the admission of that territory into the Union as an independent state.

The President also laid before the Senate a communication from the Acting Secretary of War, transmitting a statement of the expenditure and application of all monies by the War Department, during the year ending the 30th September last.

The resolution submitted by Mr. Troup on Friday, directing the committee of claims to enquire into the expediency of authorising the payment to the state of Georgia of certain claims for the services of militia called out under the authority of the United States in 1792 and 1793, for the defence of said state against Indian invasion—was taken up and agreed to.

The bills from the House of Representa-

tives for the relief of Nathaniel Taft and for the relief of John Ricaud were committed to the committee of claims.

Mr. Tait laid on the table the following motion:

'Resolved, That the Senate will, on Thursday next, proceed to the appointment of an Assistant Doorkeeper.'

No other business being offered for consideration,

The Senate adjourned.

Boston, Dec. 31.

By the brig Sally-Barker, arrived at the Vineyard from St. Salvador, we learn that H. B. M. ship Congo and Dorothea transport arrived at that place Oct. 29th from the Coast of Africa. These vessels sailed from England in March last for the purpose of exploring the river Congo, and if possible, to gain the interior of Africa. The enterprise had been abandoned in consequence of the death of the commander, J. M. Tuckey, Esq. with all the scientific gentlemen, most of the principal officers, and many of the seamen, who had fallen victims to the unhealthiness of the climate.

The coasting trade, in foreign vessels, being lately prohibited by the Portuguese government, it ought to be known that the continuation of this law is such as to extend to the entire prohibition of the admission of goods in such vessels coming from any port within the dominions of Portugal. Thus an American vessel, with salt, from the Cape de Verdes, was refused an entry here, (St. Salvador.)

#### HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 30.

A number of petitions were presented and referred; amongst them, a memorial, presented by the Speaker, from the Legislature of Mississippi Territory, noticed above in the proceedings of the Senate; also, by Mr. Condict, the petition of sundry manufacturers of bar iron, in New-Jersey, praying such an increase of duty on imported iron as will enable them to continue their business; also, by Mr. Lattimore, the petition of sundry members of the Mississippi Legislature, praying the division of said territory into two parts and that the western part thereof be admitted into the union as an independent state.

Mr. Tucker, from the committee on the District of Columbia, reported a bill to incorporate the subscribers to the Franklin Bank of Alexandria, (now called the Real Estate Bank) and for other purposes, which was twice read and committed.

Mr. Pleasants, from the committee on Naval Affairs, made a detailed report on the petition of Thomas I. Allen, representative of Wm. H. Allen, late commander of the U. S. brig Argus, and the surviving officers and



crew of that vessel, &c. concluding with a resolution unfavorable to the petitioners.—The report and resolution were, on motion of Mr. Smith, of Md. ordered to lie on the table, and be printed.

Mr. Calhoun offered for consideration, the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the committee of ways and means be instructed to enquire into the expediency of repealing so much of an act, entitled "An act further to amend the several acts for the establishment and regulation of the Treasury, War and Navy Departments," passed the 3d of March, 1809, as authorizes the President of the United States to transfer appropriations.

Mr. Calhoun supported the propriety of his motion, by remarking briefly on the evils, great evils, he said, which resulted to the public interests from the practice, particularly in the War Department, of permitting funds to be diverted from one object of appropriation and applied to another. He urged the necessity of applying a remedy, and that was to compel in the Departments a rigid adherence to specific appropriations.

After some observations from Messrs. Johnson of Ky. Smith of Md. Lowndes, and Pickering, respectively, principally explanatory of the present and former practice of the Departments, but generally acquiescing in the propriety of enquiry—the resolution was agreed to.

On motion of Mr. Lattimore, the committee on pensions and revolutionary claims were directed to enquire into the expediency of placing Robert J. Lowry, first lieutenant of the Amite troop of Mississippi dragoons, on the pension list.

On motion of Mr. Lewis, the committee on the post office were directed to enquire into the propriety of increasing the compensation of the post master at Aldie, in Virginia.

On motion of Mr. H. Nelson, it was resolved to direct a select committee to enquire into the propriety of further extending the time for locating Virginia military land warrants, and for returning the surveys thereon to the general land office; and also of further extending the time to complete the surveys and obtain the patents for lands under Virginia resolution-warrants—with leave to report by bill or otherwise.

The Speaker laid before the house a statement from the War Department, the same as that noticed above in the proceedings of the Senate—which was ordered to be printed.

On motion of Mr. Thomas.

*Resolved*, That the committee on the public lands be instructed to enquire into the expediency of adopting such restrictions as will be calculated to prevent the formation of companies to monopolize public lands in the Mississippi Territory.

#### ORDER OF THE DAY.

The house then resolved itself into a committee of the whole, Mr. Condict in the chair, on the bill to amend the act authorizing the payment for property lost, captured or destroyed by the enemy, while in the military service of the United States during the late war.

The amendment moved by Mr. Johnson, of Ky. to strike out the whole of the bill excepting the enacting clause, and in lieu thereof to insert the substitute offered by him on Friday, being under consideration—

An animated debate arose, not confined wholly to the limited question before the House, but occasionally embracing some of the most important points of national policy and of national law connected with the state of national war. A sketch of the debate will hereafter appear.

The committee rose, a little after four o'clock, without coming to a decision; and

The House adjourned.

#### *From the Lexington Monitor.*

COL. R. M. JOHNSON.—It is surprising what an excitement has been created by the re-publication in our columns, of two extracts from a New-York paper respecting Tecumseh. The last Gazette contains a very decent article on that subject, which requires from us only a few brief comments. The Editor of this paper has never pretended to any personal knowledge of the affair. The first article from the New-York Courier we did believe, and still do believe, from the information we have received, to contain a substantially correct view of the subject.—We therefore gave it to the public, more for the purpose of exciting inquiry, than with a view to create an impression. If it was incorrect, our columns were freely open for a refutation of it, and we should as cheerfully give place to a contrary statement, as to that which has called forth so much virulence.—If Col. Johnson killed Tecumseh, *let it be proved*, and let him enjoy the credit of it—if he did not kill him, let *him* enjoy the credit, to whom it justly belongs. "Far be it from us," as we have heretofore remarked, "to attempt to deprive the Col. of any credit justly his due." But we have been solicited to investigate the subject, and we shall do it. We have taken steps to obtain information, and in due time we shall lay it before the public. In the mean time we will readily give place to any decent, well authenticated statement which may be handed us for publication.—Our object is *the truth*, and that we shall fearlessly and unremittingly pursue. We are not responsible for the statements of the N. York writer, who we presume will redeem the pledge he has given, and support his assertions. We did indeed express our *belief* of his statements, founded on the information which we had casually received, and which we shall probably make public hereafter. We never pretended, however to any personal acquaintance with the facts, nor



have we ever made a single assertion respecting them, founded on our own knowledge.—Lovers of truth, who were present during the engagement, are requested to make known to the Editor of this paper, the circumstances which fell within their own observation, and they may rest assured that their statements shall be used with the strictest impartiality. The following article is copied from the last Kentucky Gazette, and had those which accompanied it been written in suitable language, they also should have received a place in our columns. We repeat it, our object is truth, and truth, if possible, we are determined to have, notwithstanding all the menaces and all the abuse, which may in consequence be heaped upon us.

—  
GEORGETOWN, Nov. 1816.

Dear Sir,

In conformity to your request, I proceed to give you as concise and correct a detail as my recollection will now enable me, of the circumstances relative to the charge of the mounted regiment Kentucky Volunteers, commanded by colonel R. M. Johnson, on the combined force of British and Indians, on the river Thames in Upper Canada, on the 5th Oct. 1813; but more particularly as to the charge of that portion of the regiment to which I was attached.

Early in the campaign, colonel Johnson had selected and organized a small party consisting of about nine, at the head of which was the dauntless old colonel Whitley, to follow him immediately in the rear of his regiment. I had the honour to compose one of this number. On the day of the battle on the Thames, colonel Johnson with his small party were formed on the charge, on the left, and immediately on the right of a deep narrow swamp of considerable extent, and at the head of the extreme right column of the 2d battalion of his regiment. The ground, particularly on the left of the swamp, over which the 2d battalion charged, was generally wet and swampy very thickly encumbered and obstructed by standing timber, and considerably so by large fallen trees, behind which in some parts of the line of the enemy, he found a secure and formidable breast work. Under these circumstances, you will not hesitate to believe, that we could progress but slowly in the charge.—At the sound of the trumpet, we moved onward, however, as speedily as practicable. The enemy had been some hours in his position, and was silently awaiting our approach; and in a few moments we were nearly upon his lines, and met by a very warm and destructive fire. The charging columns were checked in their motion, and it was discovered to be impracticable to succeed; they were ordered to dismount; but in the mean time, the little squad which followed immediately after col. Johnson, having got nearer

the enemy's lines than any other portion of the regiment, were almost entirely repulsed and overthrown, either by wounds or by falls from their horses.

Just before the charge was blown, colonel Whitley exclaimed to colonel Johnson, "Our motto to day, colonel, is victory or death."—The brave old fellow first met his fate.—He received a very mortal wound through his breast, and expired soon after. I have no doubt col. Johnson received several of his wounds almost at the same instant.—Joseph Taylor, Esq. Robert Payne and Eli Short, who were immediately before me, were all wounded nearly at the same time and dismounted; by this means a considerable space was made between colonel Johnson and myself.—I halted my horse just at this period near a large tree, and from this circumstance, together with the density of the smoke from the enemy's fire, which was then very considerable, lost sight of colonel Johnson for a few minutes; whilst in this position, I saw an Indian rather indistinctly, springing briskly forward to my right, in the attitude of striking; I changed my horse's head from the left to the right of the tree; colonel Johnson presented himself full in my view very near me, approaching me from that direction. He was then literally covered with wounds, having received five, four of which were deep and severe—his horse was likewise wounded by seven or eight balls, but the faithful animal bore him through a deep and almost impassible swamp, to the arms of his surgeon, and expired not long after.

Before the battle had terminated, I returned to the ground, as nearly as I could ascertain, which I had occupied in the charge.—This could not be easily mistaken; the swamp itself was a sufficient guide; but when I found the body of old Col. Whitley, there could be no further doubt. Not far in advance of it, and a little to the left, I found the body of an Indian, and more to the right, and in my opinion nearer the spot where I saw the Indian spring forward, I found the body of another. I cannot doubt from what I saw, and from other corroborating evidence, that this Indian fell by the hands of Colonel Johnson. The Col. discharged one of his pistols at an Indian that approached him, and was satisfied for his own part, that he had lodged its contents in his side.

The day after the battle, it was rumored through the camp, that Tecumseh was among the slain—that a body had been found which general Harrison himself recognized to be that of Tecumseh. From these reports the curiosity of almost every man in the army appeared to be highly awakened and excited to see the body. Anthony Shane, the interpreter and guide of the mounted regiment, coming to our marquee on the morning



of that day, the subject was spoken of.—Shane said he had been intimately acquainted with Tecumseh for several years before he deserted his native tribe, the Shawnees; and although it had been a long time since he had seen him, doubted not but he should be enabled to recognise his features under almost any circumstances. I was happy to find this opportunity of having my curiosity fully gratified, and proposed to accompany Shane, to examine the body—we went. By this time it required no better guide than a plainly trodden path, to direct us to the spot; we soon reached it, and I found it to be the body of the Indian I have before mentioned to have seen the preceding evening, somewhat in advance, and a little to the right of colonel Whitley; and the one which I can't but believe fell by the hands of col. Johnson. On the first view Shane pronounced it not the body of Tecumseh, but on a particular survey and examination, he was rather of a different opinion, and eventually said he thought it was.

From this evidence, and from evidence more positive of his having fallen in that engagement and about that place, I never have hesitated to believe, that this was really the body of Tecumseh. That he should have come in contact with col. Johnson, is not very wonderful or remarkable, however difficult it may be for some people to credit it.—Tecumseh is known to have been a bold and skilful warrior; doubtless he knew the conflict in which he was about to engage to be a very unequal one, and if he hoped at all for success, foresaw it would require desperate efforts on the part of his followers to ensure it. It cannot be considered remarkable then, that he should on this occasion particularly, set a very bold and daring example, and that he should be the first to encounter the leader of his enemies.

I am, &c. &c.

S. THEOBALD.

ALBANY, Dec. 30.

On Saturday, the 21st of Dec. was drowned in the Black River, at Brownville, Governor Howe Brown, the eldest son of Major Gen. Brown. The particulars of the loss of this interesting youth are as follows. He was skating in company with a cousin, a lad younger than himself, the son of judge Brown. At the close of their amusement they were joined by the Judge himself. As Judge Brown walked before them towards the shore, he was attracted by a sudden outcry, and on turning, found that both his son and nephew had fallen through the ice, and were struggling in the water. He immediately made for the nearest, which proved to be his son, whom he saved without difficulty. He then rushed towards the other, but fell through the ice when within a few feet of him. After a

great effort he succeeded in extricating himself, and again advanced towards his nephew, who was clinging to the edges of the ice: Before he could reach him the ice again gave way, and it was impossible for him either to recover himself from the water, or to reach the lad whose strength was fast failing. He encouraged him to support himself by the side of the ice until they should be relieved, and directed his son, who was near, and from his tender years had lost his self-possession, to run to a neighboring house for assistance.—The assistance, unhappily, came too late. It rescued the Judge after he had been in the water nearly half an hour; but before it arrived the unfortunate boy fainted and sunk without a struggle. In this manner closed in its twelfth year, the life of a most attractive youth.

### PRICE OF STOCKS.

(Corrected for the New-York Courier.)

New-York Bank	-	-	118
Merchants' do	-	-	105 1-2 div. o
Manhattan do	-	-	105
Mechanics' do	-	-	110
Union do	-	-	86
City do	-	-	93
America do	-	-	91 1-2
N. Y. Manufacturing Company	-	-	65 to 70
6 per Cents Old and Deferred	-	-	97 1-2
Do. Louisiana	-	-	
Do. War Loans	-	-	
Mississippi stock 60 cents the dollar	-	-	
Three per Cent	-	-	48
City Loan 6 per cent	-	-	par.
Eagle Insurance	-	-	117
Globe do	-	-	95
Washington do	-	-	110
Mutual do	-	-	3 per cent.
New-York do	-	-	nominal.
Ocean do	-	-	
American do	-	-	100 d. off
National do.	-	-	10 adv.
Treasury Notes	-	-	1-2 adv.
Dollars	-	-	1 1-2 pr.
Change	-	-	1-2
Gold	-	-	1 1-2

### COURSE OF EXCHANGE.

At sight.	5 1-2 a 6
Bills on London 60 days,	par 1 p. c. adv.
British Government 30	1 per ct.
Amsterdam	6 a 7 1-2
Hamburg	[none]
France	fr. 5 40 dull.

### DISCOUNT ON BANK NOTES.

Philadelphia and Brunswick	4 per cent.
Baltimore	7
District of Columbia	3
Western	12 1-2
Virginia	1 1-2 dis.
North-Carolina	} par to 1-2 adv.
Georgia	
South Carolina	par
Connecticut Specie Notes	1 adv.
Rhode Island do	1 a 1-2
Massachusetts do	do
Maine do	do
Boston, do	do

From the Baltimore Patriot, Dec. 30.

From New-Orleans.—We have correct intelligence from New-Orleans to the 1st inst.



The Venezulean privateer Jupiter had captured within pistol shot of the Balize, the Spanish brig La Regna de los Angeles, and the Spanish schooner Hipolita, both bound from Campeachy to N. Orleans. The crews of the two vessels were landed, except the captains, who were detained on board the privateer. In consequence of this unwarrantable outrage, committed within the jurisdiction of the United States, in violation of their neutrality, commodore Patterson had taken prompt measures to capture and bring in the privateer. The New Orleans Gazette remarks upon the occasion, that "anxious as we are for the success of the patriots, we are not less anxious that they should be taught to respect the laws and dignity of the United States."

SATURDAY, JANUARY 4, 1817.

*Punning*—A letter came a few days ago to the Post office, from Pittsburgh, directed to "*Scarcity, Plenty & Scarcity, booksellers, New-York.*" The Post master had no hesitation in sending it immediately to those extensive and celebrated booksellers, "GOULD, BANKS & GOULD," Wall-street.

*Southern Sycophancy*.—The following resolution has been recently passed by the Legislature of South-Carolina.

"Whereas, the highest tribute of respect which a republican government can pay its officers, is the approbation of its freemen, unequivocally and candidly expressed; and whereas, James Madison, has, with wisdom, firmness and patriotism, exercised for near eight years, the high and important office of president of the United States, preserving and supporting the character of the nation, in peace and in war: and is soon about to return to the peaceful shades of retired life:

Resolved unanimously,—That the Legislature of South-Carolina recal, with grateful recollections, the past services of James Madison, president of the United States; and whilst they, in common with the nation, yield this favourite statesman and patriot to retirement, discharged from these arduous public duties, so long, faithfully, wisely, and promptly rendered the republic; they request he will receive their unfeigned approbation and regard, assuring him their fervent benedictions, and best affections accompany him to the scenes of private life."

It would seem from the above, that the spirit of *democracy* is totally extinct in South-Carolina. If it had been otherwise, there would certainly have been a protest. But all went off smooth. Such a protest, conceived in the true spirit of the jacobinism of '98 and '99, would have run somewhat in this manner:

DISSENTIENT,

*First.* Because we cannot perceive either "*wisdom, firmness or patriotism,*" in Mr. Madison's concluding the late war, without attaining any one of the objects, for which the war was declared, nor can we cordially approve his leaving a part of our own territory in the hands of the enemy.

*Secondly.* Because we view with alarm the dreadful heresy of an overgrown navy, "*a great beast with a great belly,*" a monster reprobated from the time of John Adams to this day by all genuine republicans.

*Thirdly.* Because, as true republicans, we contemplate with alarm and horror, the establishment of an enormous standing army in time of peace.

*Fourthly.* Because the powers of the general government have been unduly, unwarrantably and constitutionally extended, in divers instances; and especially in the establishment of a National Bank, a machine of dangerous power, perpetually tending to corruption; and easily put under the power of foreigners.

*Fifthly.* Because, in imitation of British tyranny, "*the mouth of labour*" is grievously and oppressively taxed for the support of the aforesaid navy and army; although it is an established maxim that a militia are the only secure bulwark of a free people.

And because finally, we perceive in the prominent measures of the said Mr. Madison's administration, a studied and deliberate imitation and adoption of the odious, pernicious and aristocratic measures, which formerly drew down the vengeance of a betrayed people upon John Adams and his liberticide followers.

Wherefore we request, that if there be in the representation of Congress from this state, one true consistent republican, who has not perfidiously and treasonably abandoned the sacred principles of republicanism, as the same were professed and inculcated in the years 1798, 1799, 1800 and 1801, he present the above protest to the said James Madison, that he may chew upon the same at his leisure.

FOR THE COURIER.

LETTER I.

Selected from the Correspondence of  
THE LYCEUM.

SUBJECT—INFLUENCE OF HABIT.

MR. SECRETARY.—A rule of the Lyceum de-



clares it our duty to "endeavour assiduously, to acquire a correct habit of thought, and the best style of expression on subjects interesting to us, as rational and immortal beings." Deferring the latter for the subject of a future communication, I shall, in this, offer some remarks on the former clause—a correct habit of thought. I do not think it necessary to trouble you with any labour-ed definitions; presuming the terms are here taken in their usual acceptation, and therefore, readily understood by all. However correct, or incorrect, the opinion suggested by Professor Dugald Stewart, that the minds, or mental faculties, of all the human race are, at their original union with the body, equally sound, pure, and capable of the same cultivation and improvement; and that the difference, observable among them in after life, is to be attributed entirely to education, or to accident; we do know, that generally speaking, the minds of youth, as well as their bodies, are susceptible of various impressions, and capable of being moulded into almost any shape. Equally clear is it, that impressions, indurated by time, and inclination, fixed by continuance, are as difficult to be eradicated, and as repugnant to change, in the moral, as in the physical world.—Taking that for granted, then, which is, surely too obvious to be denied, to the question—What is a correct habit of thought? I answer, a habit of thinking with clearness, steadiness, and precision; of fixing the attention upon the subject to be considered, and of investigating it patiently and deliberately, before the decision of judgment is formed.

Very different from this are the habits of mind, observable among those *butterflies of the human species*, who flutter their short hour, in gay insignificance, over the surface of things, and then sink into oblivion,

"Unwept, unhonour'd and unsung."

Their pleasures, if not entirely sensual, if they can justly claim any mixture of mind, are of that wild, feverish, frivolous kind, which are rather characteristic of the monkey, than of the man; and which sober reason must ever condemn.—Never penetrating beneath the surface of things, they know not those exquisite pleasures of the mind, which flow from a rational exercise of its powers; and which Archimedes felt, when he exultingly exclaimed, "I have found, I have found out the object of my researches." Crude, vague, and confused, their ideas are thrown together without order, and uttered without design; volatile, inconstant, and undisciplined, their minds, perpetually flitting from subject to subject, are as incapable of close investigation, as they are of relishing the pleasures, that spring from reasoning and reflection.

A correct habit of thought, alone, can enable

a person to reason and judge, consistently, on subjects daily soliciting attention; to perform, with design, "what is worthy of being recorded, or to write what deserves to be read;" to "brush the cobwebs of sophistry from his way, as the lion shakes the dew-drops from his mane," and pursue, successfully, the intricate paths of science. Without this habit, previously formed, Newton never could have soared, with such an eagle flight, in the bewildering regions of the planetary world; nor Locke, with so keen and steady an eye, have penetrated the abstruse mysteries of the human mind.

This habit, unlike those of an opposite nature, can be acquired only by assiduous, persevering, and sometimes, painful application. "Good habits," an elegant writer has somewhere observed, "are to be acquired with care, attention and labour; bad habits are induced by mere negligence;" but it is consoling to reflect, that, while the latter sink their victim, by repeated plunges, lower and lower in the depths of wretchedness, the former are a source of constant and increasing pleasure. They expel, by degrees, our evil propensities; smooth the rugged ways; and render a pursuit, at first irksome and difficult, pleasant and easy.

Yours, &c.

MENTOR.

From Batavia—We learn from Capt. Har-  
sin, of the ship *America*, who arrived yesterday morning in 94 days from Batavia, that the Island of Java was transferred from the English to the Dutch on the morning of the 19th August; at which time the Dutch flag was hoisted at all the different stations, except at Weltevreden, about 4 miles from Batavia, where the English still retained a small military force for the protection of their treasury and accountant's office, which are expected to remain there some months, for the final adjustment of unsettled accounts. Almost all the British forces, European and native, had embarked for Bengal. A number of Dutch, American, and British merchant ships were lying in the Roads. They had imported vast supplies of European and American produce, which was selling, in most instances, below prime cost.—*E. Post.*

The New-Orleans Gazette of December 7th, states, that one of the Spanish vessels lately captured off the Balize, by the privateer *Jupiter*, has been given up, and had arrived in the river. The same paper adds that the ship *Vigilant*, was ashore below, in four feet water.

Prices Current at New-Orleans, Dec. 4.  
Cotton, 1st quality, 26 cents—no sale.  
Hams and Bacon, 10 to 15—dull.  
Pork, K. mess, 20—scarce.



Sugar, Country, prime, 12 to 15 cts. New crop, 9 to 10—scarce.

Tobacco, K. cwt. 11 to 12—dull.

*Exchange.*

On London,	5 per cent above, nominal,
On France,	Par.
On Baltimore,	5 do. below.
On Philadelphia,	2 do. do.
On New-York,	Par.
On Boston,	2 do. above.
Specie,	3 do. do.
<i>Dubourg's P. C.</i>	

*From the National Intelligencer of Jan. 1.*

*Congress*—The Senate had under consideration yesterday but little business of a public nature—the most important motion disposed of was Mr. Dana's resolution for enquiry into the expediency of defining more clearly the limits of our maritime jurisdiction, which was agreed to. The proceeding on this and other subjects of consideration will be given to-morrow.

Yesterday's proceedings of the House of Representatives, as well as those of the Senate, are excluded by the debate which to-day fills our columns. No decision took place on the subject which at present almost wholly engrosses the attention of the House. After disposing of some incipient propositions, and discharging the committee appointed to enquire into the decisions of the Commissioner of Claims for lost property, &c. from the further consideration of that subject, the House, in committee of the whole, took up the bill reported by the committee of claims to amend the act authorizing the payment for property lost, &c. in the military service during the late war, the debate on which was resumed and continued till past four o'clock.

*AN EXTRACT.*

On the 10th, after a ride of six hours, we arrived at the pretty village of Souseverle. About five hundred paces from the village runs a river, and beyond this river extends a beautiful and spacious plain. This river of Sousonghirli is no other than the Granicus; and this unknown plain is the plain of Mysia.

What is then the spell of glory? A traveller comes to a river, in which he observes nothing remarkable; he is told that the name of this river is Sousonghirli: he crosses it and pursues his way. But should some one perchance call out to him: 'Tis the Granicus!—he starts, opens his astonished eyes, fixes them on the river, as if the water possessed a magic power, or as if a supernatural voice were to be heard on its banks. We halted three hours at Sousonghirli, and I spent the whole of that time in contemplating the Granicus. It is very narrow; the west bank is steep and rugged; and its water, which is bright and limpid, flows over a sandy bottom. This stream, in the place where I saw it, is not more than forty feet broad, and three and a half deep; but in spring it rises and runs with impetuosity. Let us hear what Plutarch says:

"In the mean time, Darius's generals had assembled an immense army, and had taken post upon the banks of the Granicus; so that Alexander was under the necessity of fighting there, to open the gates of Asia. Many of his officers were apprehensive of the depth of the river, and the rough and uneven banks on the other side; and some thought that a proper regard should be paid to a traditionary usage with respect to the time, for the kings of Macedon never marched out to war in the month Dæsius. Alexander cured them of this piece of superstition, by ordering that month to be called 'the second Artemisius.' And when Parmenio objected to his attempting a passage so late in the day, he replied: 'The Hellespont would blush, if after having passed it, he should be afraid of the Granicus.' At the same time, he threw himself into the stream with thirteen troops of horse; and as he advanced in the face of the enemy's arrows, in spite of the steep banks which were lined with cavalry well armed, and the rapidity of the river, which often bore him down or covered him with its waves, his motions seemed rather the effects of madness than sound sense. He held on, however, till by astonishing efforts, he gained the opposite banks, which the mud rendered extremely slippery and dangerous. When he was there, he was forced to stand an engagement with the enemy, hand to hand, and with much confusion on his part, because they attacked his men as fast as they came over, before he had time to form them. For the Persian troops, charging with loud shouts, and with horse against horse, made good use of their spears, and when those were broken, with their swords.

"Numbers pressed hard upon Alexander, because he was easy to be distinguished both by his buckler and his crest, on each side of which was a large and beautiful plume of white feathers.—His cuirass was pierced by a javelin at the joint; but he escaped unhurt. After this Rhesaces and Spithridates, two officers of high distinction, attacked him jointly. The latter he avoided with great address, and received the former with such a stroke of his spear, upon his breast plate, that it broke in pieces. He then drew his sword to dispatch him; but his adversary still maintained the combat. In the mean time, Spithridates came up on one side of him, and raising himself on his horse gave him a blow with his battle-axe, which cut off his crest with one side of the plume. Nay, the force of it was such, that the helmet could hardly resist it: it even penetrated to his hair. Spithridates was about to repeat his stroke, when the celebrated Clitus prevented him, by running him through the body with his spear. At the same time Alexander with his sword, brought Rhesaces to the ground.

"While the cavalry was thus furiously and critically engaged, the Macedonian phalanx passed the river, and then the infantry likewise engaged. The enemy made no considerable or long resistance, but soon turned their backs and fled; all but the Grecian mercenaries, who forming upon an eminence, desired Alexander to give his word of honour that they should be spared. But that prince influenced rather by his passion than by his reason, instead of giving them quarter advanced to attack them, and was so warmly received that he had his horse killed under him. It was not, however, the famous Bucephalus. In this dispute, more of his men were killed and wounded, than in all the rest of the battle; for here



they had to do with experienced soldiers, who fought with a courage heightened by despair.

"The barbarians, we are told, lost in this battle twenty thousand foot and two thousand five hundred horse; whereas Alexander had only thirty-four men killed, nine of which were infantry. To do honour to their memory, he erected to each of them a statue in brass, the workmanship of Lysippus. And that the Greeks might have their share in the glory of the day, he distributed among them presents out of the spoil; to the Athenians in particular, he sent three hundred bucklers. Upon the rest of the spoils he put this pompous inscription: 'Won by Alexander the son of Philip, and the Greeks (excepting the Lacedæmonians) from the barbarians of Asia.'"

It is one single individual, then, who thus immortalizes a little river in a desert! Here falls an immense empire, and here rises an empire still more immense; the Indian Ocean hears the fall of the throne that is overturned near the shores of the Propontis; the Ganges beholds the approach of the leopard with four wings,\* which triumphed on the banks of the Granicus; Babylon, which the king built in the splendour of his power, opens her gates to admit a new master; Tyre, the queen of ships, is humbled, and her rival springs up out of the sands of Alexandria.

Alexander was guilty of crimes: he was unable to withstand the intoxication of his success; but by what magnanimity did he not atone for the errors of his life! His crimes were always expiated by his tears: with Alexander every thing came from the heart. He began and terminated his career with two sublime expressions. On his departure to make war upon Darius, he divided his dominions among his officers. "What then do you reserve for yourself?" cried they in astonishment. "Hope," was his reply. "To whom do you leave the empire?" said these same officers to him when expiring. "To the most worthy," said he. Place between these two expressions, the conquest of the world, achieved with thirty-five thousand men, in less than ten years, and you must admit that if ever man resembled a god among men, it was Alexander.

\* Daniel.

#### CONGRESSIONAL. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 27, 1816.

The House having, on motion of Mr. HARDIN, of Ky. resolved itself into a committee of the whole, on the bill to amend the act authorizing payment for property lost, captured or destroyed, whilst in the military service of the United States—Mr. CONDUCT in the chair.

The first section of the bill having been read, which goes to repeal certain sections of the former act—

Mr. CLARK, of N. Y. moved to strike out there from the word *ninth*, so as to retain the section of the law (proposed to be stricken out) authorizing payment for houses destroyed by the enemy, in consequence of their occupation as places of military deposit.

Mr. HARDIN stated, that the motive which induced the committee to recommend the

striking out of that section, did not proceed from an objection to the satisfaction of such claims, but to the decision there on being placed at the disposal of one commissioner, or officer, of any description. It was the opinion of the committee that such claims ought to pass specially before Congress. Nine-tenths of the aggregate amount of money paid under the awards of the commissioner of claims, had been under the 9th section of the act. There were claims in the commissioner's office, coming under that section of the act, yet undecided on, to the amount of something like half a million of dollars. This was a sum too large to be allowed to claimants but by special acts of Congress, certainly too large to be subjected to the decision of one man, whose award was decisive, fixed and unalterable, &c.

Mr. BETTS, of N. Y. moved that the committee should rise. The report of the Commissioner had been laid on the table from the printer's only this morning, and he had no opportunity to examine it. The House might, perhaps, after a perusal of the report and documents, not be disposed to amend the act at all. They certainly ought to understand the subject before they acted on it.

Mr. HARDIN trusted, he said, that the committee would not rise. The decisions of the commissioner had been suspended on every section of the act in question, and could not be resumed until Congress should act on the subject. As to the document the gentleman had spoken of, it was, Mr. Hardin said, nothing more than an elementary treatise, drawn up by Mr. Lee, or somebody else for him, which he suspected was the fact—a learned treatise on the construction of statutes.—Mr. H. said he had rather be moving some way or other on this subject, even if wrongly, than that the act should be kept wholly in suspense.

Mr. DESHA, of Ky. was in favor of the committee's rising, and was proceeding to assign his reasons—

When the Chairman said, the nature of the question (on the committee's rising) precluded debate, except on that point.

The question on the committee's rising was determined in the negative, 68 to 53.

The question recurred on Mr. Clark's motion for striking out the word "*ninth*."

Mr. ROBERTSON (of Lou.) spoke in favor of the motion. Those who had claims in his part of the country, under the act passed at the last session, had prepared the evidence in support of them, in the manner pointed out by the commissioner; and only yesterday an agent, sent on by them with these claims, arrived in this city. Why, Mr. Robertson, asked, should a different measure of justice be afforded to citizens in different sections



of the country? Why should his constituents, by a repeal of this section of the act, be deprived of the advantages of which others, nearer the seat of government had availed themselves? Or why should claims of one description continue to be paid, whilst claims of another sort, depending on the same principle, were to be dragged before the House? The numerous applications for indemnification for losses had made it necessary to appoint a commissioner to decide on them; and claims for lost horses, teams, &c. were still to be subject to summary decision; whilst claims equally just, resting on the same principle, because they differed in amount, were to come before this House. Let all claims for losses during the war, said Mr. R. stand on the same footing: Let all or none of them come before this House. As to the amount of the claims, Mr. R. said, it required only a greater rigor of scrutiny into testimony, where claims were large. The individuals he had spoken of, Mr. R. said, having taken their measures with a view to the exhibition of their claims before the Commissioner, were not prepared with petitions, &c. to come before this House, and if they were obliged to do so, they would be subjected to great loss, and encounter much delay and further expense. And, he said, when gentlemen from the western country should have got their claims settled before the commissioner or other officer, whatever the liberality and fairness with which they generally act, for which he gave them credit, there would not be the same inducement to lay claims for other property; and he ventured to say, if the claims of houses burnt belonged to that section of the country, the house would never have heard of one mode of paying for claims of one character, and another mode for other claims depending on the same principle. Mr. R. said he had thought it necessary, representing alone on this floor a particular section of the country, to oppose the attempt to place those, who have suffered losses in that quarter, in an infinitely worse situation than that in which they now stood.—What would be the impression made on the minds of those people, when they found property in one part of the country paid for, and the same payment refused to them? It would be, that there was an attention to the interests of those near the seat of government, and of those numerous represented, which those otherwise situated need not look for.—He hoped the 9th section would not be repealed. If the commissioner was not a fit person to decide on the claims, and of his fitness he did not know and therefore would not say any thing—let another be selected. it was peculiarly ungracious at this moment to shut the door against his constituents, Mr. R. said, and to decide that this section of the act having answered particular purposes, it

was unnecessary to continue it longer. As to throwing the claimants on Congress, every one could see the difficulty of obtaining attention to minute claims, and the small prospect which the claimants must have of obtaining that deliberate consideration of their claims, which justice requires.

Mr. WRIGHT, of Md. believed the old law ought to remain unaltered, unless by the addition of two commissioners to the one already appointed. The Congress had, in a particular case, appointed three commissioners to decide on the merits of claims not more difficult, nor perhaps more important, than those confided by the act of last session to one commissioner—he meant the Yazoo claims. The idea of a single commissioner has been objected to in the Senate at the last Session; they desired three commissioners. This House decided in favour of one. And why now undo that which was last year so deliberately done? Would any man here say that houses burnt by the enemy, because in military possession or occupation, ought not to be paid for? A man might blush for his country, if such an opinion were recorded as its act. If we cross the Canada line, he said, we find that government making payment for losses of every description sustained by its citizens. The proposition to repeal the 9th section of the act of last session, Mr. W. said, contemplated injustice to the small states. How did they now stand in this respect? The gentleman from Louisiana was the single representative of a part of the country which had in this respect greatly suffered. Look at the proceedings of every day, Mr. Wright said, and injustice to the small states would appear in the votes of the House. He protested *totis viribus* against it. If there was any fault in regard to the law of last session—and he did not say there was—it was in the selection of a man for Commissioner who wanted judgment; for he never heard him even suspected of a disposition to do otherwise than right. If the records now in possession of this House were temperately examined, Mr. W. said he believed they would present a very different view of this matter from that which the gentleman had hastily taken up. Let us appoint two additional Commissioners, said he, and that will be a sufficient amendment to the law. There were, he said, many cases waiting now, which ought to be paid; which this House had said ought to be paid—which it was now desired they should unsay, and leave the decision on the claims to a body, the members of which, to say the least of it, respected their own constituents much more than they did others. He knew it to be so, he said, he had seen it every day; and no gentleman would rise and say that they were not more ready to attend to the wants of their constituents than to those of a distant region. Mr.



W. said, he was not prepared to denounce the present Commissioner, or legislate him out of office. Let him be heard; let his acts be examined, before they are judged. As to reference of claims coming under the 9th section to this House, Mr. W. said it was impossible they could be fully examined here; and, if they could, it would be vastly more expensive, one day's sitting of this House costing the nation as much as a year's salary of a Commissioner. Mr. W. complained that his constituents, who were exposed by their situations, who did not live beyond the mountains, who fought at the water's edge, and had their vessels and houses burnt, were to be deprived of the benefits of the provisions of a law, which Congress had at the last session solemnly decided to be proper and right to be applied to their case. He hoped the House would confirm now what they had done at the last session, and not repeal a law because its provisions had, in the execution of it, been more widely extended, than was thought proper. But Mr. W. said he did not believe there had in this case been as great a clamor against Mr. Lee's construction of the law, as there had been against that of chief justice Marshall in the case of Aaron Burr. He hoped the House would make short work of it, and reject this bill.—Mr. W. went on to state his opinion that the conduct of the government in regard to individual losses by the war ought to be graduated by the most liberal principles, and that all property ought to be paid for destroyed by the enemy in consequence of the presence of military force. On the exposed Atlantic frontier, in many cases houses have been destroyed by the enemy because occupied by the militia, sometimes with and sometimes without the owner's consent. Would gentlemen arrest the payment of such claims, or throw them on the benignity of this House, after they had been paid for their horses? He should move an amendment, he said, at the proper time, to appoint two additional Commissioners, with an appeal, if the House choose in doubtful cases, to any body vested with appellate jurisdiction, even if it were the Supreme Court.

Mr. HARRISON, of Ohio, assured the gentleman from Maryland that he, though from the West, was as much opposed to the bill as the gentleman himself could be; and he begged the gentleman from Maryland to believe that there were some gentlemen in the West, as willing to provide for the payment for burnt houses as for lost horses—who made no distinction between the losses of different sections in a common cause. Mr. H. wished to strike out the whole bill, and to propose a substitute, which, not expecting the bill to be called up to-day, since the documents were only just laid on the table he had not time to prepare. If the committee would rise, he could prepare one.

Mr. JOHNSON, of Ky. rose to propose an amendment to the bill which he had prepared. He did not mean now to enter into a discussion, in which, if such should arise on this subject, he should think it his duty to take up a small portion of the time of the House, but not at this hour of the day, or at this time of the week. He could shew, when it became necessary, that, so far from any occasion to amend the law, unless to extend its provisions, the English language could not make the law more definite—or embrace more distinctly principles which have been solemnly sanctioned by this House, and he was certain would be by this nation—principles which no American Congress would ever refuse to sanction. For the present, he should content himself with submitting his proposition, convinced that all would be satisfied, and even the Commissioner himself, with a subjection of his decisions, besides the general controul of the Executive, to the revision of one of the Heads of Departments. Independent of other considerations, he said, a strong reason against the intention of the office of Commissioner was, the time it would take to organize and put in motion a new office, new books, &c. The present Commissioner knew the views of the Executive, and would not only be as adequate, but more prompt than any other individual who could be selected, &c. Mr. J. then submitted his motion to strike the whole of the bill from the enacting clause, and in lieu thereof to insert the following:

“That in all cases arising under the provisions of ‘‘ An act authorising the payment for property lost or destroyed, by the enemy, while in the military service of the United States, and for other purposes, the decisions of the Commissioner shall be revised and sanctioned by the Secretary of the Treasury, without which sanction, no money shall be drawn from the Treasury of the United States to satisfy any such claims; and at the next session of Congress, the said Secretary shall make report of such cases as may not be embraced by said act, but which in his opinion, should be provided for by law.”

On motion of Mr HARRISON, the committee then rose, reported progress and obtained leave to sit again; and Mr. Johnson's amendment was ordered to be printed.

#### MARRIED.

On Thursday evening last, by the Right Rev. Bishop Hobart, STEPHEN VAN RANSELAER, Junr. Esq. son of STEPHEN VAN RANSELAER, Esq. of Albany, to Miss HARRIET ELIZABETH BAYARD, youngest daughter of William Bayard, Esq. of this city.

Thursday evening, by the Rev. Dr. Romeyn, Dr. JESSE COE, of Hempstead, Rockland county, to Miss ELIZABETH MERRITT, of Harrison town, West Chester county, youngest daughter of Joseph Merritt Esq.